

What is Claimed is:

1. A clamp-jaw contact assembly comprising:
a stationary contact adapted to engage a meter socket cavity;
a moveable contact adapted to engage a meter bayonet; and
a unitary member pivotally mounting said moveable contact to said stationary contact and adapted to bias said moveable contact toward said stationary contact.
2. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said unitary member is a U-shaped wire-form.
3. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said unitary member is a wire-formed member.
4. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said unitary member is a spring / pivot member having a rectangular shape with a pair of ends and an open portion therebetween.
5. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 4 wherein said spring / pivot member has a general U-shape including a pair of sides disposed from a bottom portion, with each of said ends being disposed from a corresponding one of said sides, and with each of said sides having a bend portion.
6. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said stationary contact includes an elongated body and a pair of sides, which extend from said elongated body; wherein said moveable contact includes a body portion and a pair of sides, which extend from said body portion; wherein the sides of said stationary contact and said moveable contact have openings; wherein said unitary member is a spring / pivot member having a first end, which passes through a first pair of the openings of a first pair of said sides of said stationary contact and said moveable contact, said spring / pivot member having a second end, which passes through a second pair of the openings of a second pair of said sides of said stationary contact and said moveable contact.
7. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said unitary member is a spring / pivot member having a first end, a second end and an open portion therebetween; wherein said stationary contact includes first and second openings; wherein said moveable contact includes first and second openings; wherein

the first end of said spring / pivot member engages the first openings of said stationary contact and said moveable contact; and wherein the second end of said spring / pivot member engages the second openings of said stationary contact and said moveable contact.

8. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said moveable contact is a unitary member including a back portion and a pair of wings extending substantially perpendicular to said back portion.

9. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 1 wherein said unitary member is a spring / pivot member having a general U-shape including a pair of ends disposed from a pair of sides disposed from a bias member, said pair of ends pivotally mounting said moveable contact to said stationary contact; wherein said stationary contact includes a surface; and wherein said moveable contact includes a first portion, which is pivotally mounted to said stationary contact, and a second portion proximate the surface of said stationary contact and adapted to be biased by the bias member of said spring / pivot member.

10. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 9 wherein said stationary contact is elongated and includes a pair of protrusions; wherein the sides of said spring / pivot member engage the protrusions of said stationary contact; wherein said moveable contact pivots about the ends of said spring / pivot member; and wherein the second portion of said moveable contact engages the bias member of said spring / pivot member, in order to maintain said moveable contact in a clamped position with respect to said stationary contact.

11. The clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 10 wherein the sides of said spring / pivot member are adapted to bend when said moveable contact pivots about the ends of said spring / pivot member, in order to cause said bias member to bias the second portion of said moveable contact toward said stationary contact.

12. A meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly comprising:
a stationary contact;
a moveable contact; and
a unitary spring / pivot member pivotally mounting said moveable contact to said stationary contact and adapted to bias said moveable contact toward said stationary contact.

13. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said stationary contact includes an elongated body and a pair of wings, which extend perpendicular to said elongated body.

14. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 13 wherein said moveable contact includes a first portion and a second portion; wherein said spring / pivot member includes a first end, which pivotally mounts the first portion of said moveable contact to said stationary contact, and a second end, which engages the second portion of said moveable contact; and wherein the wings of said stationary contact include protrusions, which engage said spring / pivot member, in order that the second end of said spring / pivot member is adapted to bias the second portion of said moveable contact toward said stationary contact.

15. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said stationary contact is a unitary member including an elongated body portion, a bottom portion disposed from said elongated body portion, and an extension portion disposed from said bottom portion and being generally parallel to said elongated body portion; and wherein said moveable contact is pivotally mounted from said elongated body portion adjacent to said extension portion.

16. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 15 wherein the bottom portion of said stationary contact includes a pair of sides and a conductor terminal interface, which is disposed from one of said sides.

17. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said moveable contact is made of copper or heat treated steel.

18. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said spring / pivot member is formed from a wire.

19. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said spring / pivot member has a rectangular shape with a pair of ends and an open portion therebetween.

20. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 19 wherein said spring / pivot member has a general U-shape including a pair of sides disposed from a bottom portion, with each of said ends being disposed from a corresponding one of said sides, and with each of said sides having a bend portion.

21. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said stationary contact includes an elongated body and a pair of sides, which extend from said elongated body; wherein said moveable contact includes a body portion and a pair of sides, which extend from said body portion; wherein the sides of said stationary contact and said moveable contact have openings; wherein said spring / pivot member has a first end, which passes through a first pair of the openings of a first pair of said sides of said stationary contact and said moveable contact; and wherein said spring / pivot member has a second end, which passes through a second pair of the openings of a second pair of said sides of said stationary contact and said moveable contact.

22. The meter socket clamp-jaw contact assembly of Claim 12 wherein said spring / pivot member has a first end and a second end; wherein said stationary contact includes first and second openings; wherein said moveable contact includes first and second openings; wherein the first end of said spring / pivot member engages the first openings of said stationary contact and said moveable contact; and wherein the second end of said spring / pivot member engages the second openings of said stationary contact and said moveable contact.